

We claim:

- ✓ 1. A measuring and layout device comprising:
a stationary member having a flat surface adapted to be marked on; and
an angle and distance device rotatably coupled to the stationary member, the angle and
distance device including a longitudinally and laterally rigid extendable tape that can be extended
5 from a central point and an edge that facilitates reliably marking on the stationary member to
form an accurate template as the angle and distance device is rotated and the tape is extended and
retracted to critical features of an area.

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2. The measuring and layout device of claim 1, wherein:
the angle and distance device includes a tape measure that incorporates the tape.

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✓ 3. The measuring and layout device of claim 2, wherein:
the angle and distance device includes a carrier that is adapted to hold the tape measure.

- ✓ 4. The measuring and layout device of claim 3, wherein:
the carrier is pivotally coupled to the stationary member.

- ✓ 5. The measuring and layout device of claim 4, wherein:
the carrier includes a front leg adjacent a top of the stationary member; and
the front leg has guides for the tape and a straight edge for making the template.

- ✓ 6. The measuring and layout device of claim 4, wherein:
the carrier includes an integral housing; and
the tape measure is located within the housing.

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7. The measuring and layout device of claim 1, wherein:
the stationary member is a board.

8. The measuring and layout device of claim 7, wherein:
the board includes non-slip feet.

9. The measuring and layout device of claim 1, wherein:
the template includes markings written directly onto the stationary member.
10. The measuring and layout device of claim 1, wherein:
the template includes markings written onto a paper placed on the stationary member.
11. The measuring and layout device of claim 1, wherein:
the stationary member has a circular configuration.
12. The measuring and layout device of claim 1, wherein:
the stationary member has a substantially semi-circular configuration.
- ✓ 13. The measuring and layout device of claim 1, wherein:
the angle and distance device includes a tape measure extender for mechanically extending
the tape, thereby allowing a single person to create the template while staying in a single central
location.
14. The measuring and layout device of claim 1, wherein:
the tape includes an end with a holder attached thereto; and
the holder is configured to secure a writing utensil.
15. The measuring and layout device of claim 1, wherein:
the angle and distance device has a digital readout for accurately communicating a
distance that the tape is extended from the angle and distance device.
16. The measuring and layout device of claim 1, wherein:
the tape has a pivotal pointer at a distal end.

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17. A method of measuring and laying out a template of a room, such as for cutting a carpet for a room floor, comprising:
providing a stationary member;
providing a tape measure;
extending the tape measure to a critical feature of an area in a room to be measured; and
recording information on the stationary member from the tape measure relating to the critical feature.

18. The method of measuring and laying out a template of claim 17, further comprising:
providing a pointer on an end of the tape measure adapted to be accurately aligned with the critical feature of the area; and
recording the information ^{of} the stationary member as the pointer aligns with the critical feature.

19. A method of measuring sheet goods for cutting and placement comprising:
placing a stationary member on a workpiece to be cut;
extending a tape measure according to ^a the template;
marking the workpiece with marks according to the template; and
cutting the workpiece according to the marks.

20. The method of measuring sheet goods of claim 19, further comprising the steps of:
rotatably coupling the tape measure to the stationary member; and
making a pattern on the workpiece according to the template.

21. The method of measuring sheet goods of claim 20, wherein:
the marks form a continuous pattern; and
the step of cutting the workplace includes continuously cutting the workpiece according to the pattern.

22. A method of accurately cutting sheet goods comprising:
providing a template including a center point and feature location information comprising angle and distance information relative to the center point;
providing a sheet of material to be cut;
placing the template on the sheet of material;
providing an angle and distance device adapted to identify critical points on the sheet of material based on the feature location information; and
cutting the sheet of material according to the critical points.
23. The method of accurately cutting sheet goods of claim 22, wherein:
the angle and distance device is a tape measure.
24. The method of accurately cutting sheet goods of claim 22, wherein:
the angle and distance device is an electronic angle and distance measuring device.

25. A measuring and layout device comprising: *Device (Preamble)*
providing a stationary member having a flat surface adapted to be marked on;
rotatably coupling an angle and distance device to the stationary member, the angle and distance device including a longitudinally and laterally rigid extendable tape that can be extended from a central point and an edge that facilitates reliably marking on the stationary member; and
forming an accurate template by reliably marking on the stationary member as the angle and distance device is rotated and the tape is extended and retracted to critical features of an area.

method steps

26. The measuring and layout device of claim 1, further comprising:
a motor and motor controller operably connected to the longitudinally and laterally rigid tape (for extending, retracting and axially rotating the tape;)
the motor controller being programmed to record data and create an electronic version of the template.

27. The measuring and layout device of claim 26, wherein:
the tape includes a marker on one end, and the motor controller is programmed to move the marker in accordance with the template on a surface.
28. The measuring and layout device of claim 27, wherein:
the template comprises a picture.
29. The measuring and layout device of claim 26, wherein:
the motor controller is programmed for automatic operation to create the template and to draw the template on a workpiece.

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